AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Once the competition is brought in the insurance sector, it is expected that earnings from the insurance premium would substantially increase and the inflation adjusted premium amount would be 40 to 45 billion dollars for the period of next five years. A substantial amount of the additional funds generated would be available for infrastructure investments especially from the life insurance and pension, sector.

Delay in Infrastructure Projects

1072. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 110 projects in the core sector, which is 50% of the total 221 projects in the Central Sector, were delayed;

(b) whether of these, 84 per cent were from the infrastructure sector;

(c) whether besides the above, 58 projects are without a date of commissioning;

(d) what are the reasons for these delays; and

(e) what action Government are taking to expedite the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As on June, 1998, out of 221 projects, 110 projects in the core sector were delayed. Of these, 84% were from the infrastructure sector and 58 projects did not have any date of commissioning.

(d) The reasons for delay vary from project to project. However, in general, the reasons for the delays include: delay in land acquisition, delay in obtaining environmental clearance, lack of supporting infrastructure, delay in tie-up of adequate funds, delay in award of contracts, failure of contractors, delay in supply of equipments and law and order problems.

(e) In order to monitor the projects to reduce cost and time overruns, the Government has taken the following measures:

(i) Setting up of an Empowered Committee in each Administrative Ministry to find out ways and means to remove bottlenecks.

(ii) Appointment of a nodal officer for projects costing Rs. 50 crore or more in each Ministry.

(iii) Periodic review of important projects by the Prime Minister's Office and the Cabinet Secretary.

(iv) Preparation of periodical reports by the Department of Programme Implementation to assist the concerned administrative ministries, Cabinet Secretariat and the Prime Minister's Office to monitor the progress of the projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above.

वार्षिक विकास दर का आकलन

1073. **श्री राज मोहिन्दर सिंह**:

श्री कपिल सिब्बल:

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चालू वित्तीय वर्ष 1998-99 के अत में वार्षिक विकास दर के बारे में विभिन्न आकलनकर्त्ताओं/मूल्यांककों ने अलग-अलग दरें आकलित की हैं;

(ख) यदि हां,तो क्या सरकार ने भी हमारे देश के सकल घरेलू उत्पाद की वार्षिक दर के संबंध में कोई आकलन किया हैं;और